

Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Governor Terry McAuliffe

January 3, 2018

Dear State Employees:

I am pleased to announce that the Virginia Museum of Natural History is offering state employees free admission to the exhibit *Dinosaurs: Reign of the Giants* now through May 28, 2018. This one-of-a-kind exhibit features spectacular fossils and casts of *Triceratops*, *Stegosaurus*, *Tenontosaurus* and more. The exhibit also features the world's only fossil evidence that *Tyrannosaurus rex* and *Triceratops* engaged in battle.

In addition to free admission, this special offer includes a 10 percent discount on purchases in the VMNH Museum Store and PALEO Café.

The *Triceratops* fossil with *T. rex* bite marks is an important specimen that has never been on public exhibit before. This fossil shows clear indications of healing, which allows scientists to conclude that the bite occurred while this *Triceratops* was alive and that it survived the battle.

The exhibit also features life-sized cast skeletons of *Triceratops*, *Tenontosaurus*, and *Stegosaurus*, a large, plant-eating dinosaur distinguishable by two rows of bony plates on its back. The *Stegosaurus* skeleton was gifted to the museum by the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, where it was first displayed in 1917 and re-cast in 2003.

Regular admission prices are \$7 for adults (ages 19-59), and \$5 for children (ages 3-18), seniors (60+) and college students. VMNH members and children under 3 receive free admission.

Additional information about the *Dinosaurs: Reign of the Giants* exhibit is available at www.vmnh.net/dinosaurs.

I hope you are able to experience this remarkable exhibit.

Sincerely,

Governor Terence R. McAuliffe